

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****United States Patent and Trademark Office**Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/686,880 10/12/00 SMITH

A 06999.0009

EXAMINER

HM12/0816

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CHEN, S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1633

DATE MAILED:

08/16/01

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/686,880

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

Shin-Lin Chen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 42-65 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 42-65 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 42-54, 58, 64 and 65, drawn to a method for generating a culture that is purified or enriched in neural progenitor cells from multipotential cells, such as ES cells, EG cells, EC cells, primary culture cells, by introducing into said multipotential cells one or more selectable marker, classified in class 435, subclasses 368 and 377
 - II. Claims 42-51, 55 and 58, drawn to a method for generating a culture that is purified or enriched in cardiac progenitor cells from multipotential cells, such as ES cells, EG cells, EC cells, primary culture cells, by introducing into said multipotential cells one or more selectable marker, classified in class 435, subclasses 371 and 377.
 - III. Claims 42-51 and 56-58, drawn to a method for generating a culture that is purified or enriched in haematopoietic progenitor cells from multipotential cells, such as ES cells, EG cells, EC cells, primary culture cells, by introducing into said multipotential cells one or more selectable marker, classified in class 435, subclasses 372 and 377.
 - IV. Claims 42-51 and 58-60, drawn to a method for generating a culture that is purified or enriched in ventral progenitor cells from multipotential cells, such as ES cells, EG cells, EC cells, primary culture cells, by introducing into said

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multipotential cells one or more selectable marker, classified in class 435, subclasses 325 and 377.

- V. Claims 61-63, drawn to an assay of the effect of a factor on a culture of progenitor cells of a selected lineage, classified in class 435, subclass 4.

Claims 42-51 and 58 link(s) inventions I-IV. The restriction requirement among the linked inventions is subject to the nonallowance of the linking claim(s), claims 42-51 and 58. Upon the allowance of the linking claim(s), the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions shall be withdrawn and any claim(s) depending from or otherwise including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) will be entitled to examination in the instant application. Applicant(s) are advised that if any such claim(s) depending from or including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) is/are presented in a continuation or divisional application, the claims of the continuation or divisional application may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Where a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also M.E.P.. § 804.01.

2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Groups I-IV are distinct from each other because they are drawn to methods of making different type of cells: neural progenitor cells, cardiac progenitor cells, haematopoietic progenitor cells, and ventral progenitor cells. Those cells differ morphologically, physiologically and have

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different cell markers. The methods of generating those different progenitor cells differ at least in objectives, method steps, reagents and/or dosages and/or schedules used, response variables, and criteria for success. Since the classification for each is different, the search for each group would not be coextensive. They are not obvious variants and deemed patentably distinct.

Group V is distinct from each of groups I-IV because an assay of the effect of a factor on a culture of progenitor cells differ from a method of culturing a progenitor cell type at least in objectives, materials used, method steps, reagents and/or dosages and/or schedules used, response variables, and criteria for success. Since the classification for each is different, the search for each group would not be coextensive. They are not obvious variants and deemed patentably distinct.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter and as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any

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amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shin-Lin Chen whose telephone number is (703) 305-1678. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Clark can be reached on (703) 305-4051. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 308-4242.

Questions of formal matters can be directed to the patent analyst, Kimberly Davis, whose telephone number is (703) 305-3015.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Shin-Lin Chen, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 's-l chen', located below the printed name.